THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Mid-term general elections to Lok Sabha have been held on six occasions so far, in 1970, 1977, 1979, 1991, 1997 and 1999, in order either to seek a fresh mandate so as to effectively implement the policies and programmes of the government/party in power or to constitute a new House, as political instability had rendered the existing House incapable of yielding a Stable Government.

Implementation of SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 in U.P.

†4041. SHRI GANDHI AZAD: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the right to take cognizance has been given to special courts according to the provision of section 9 and 10 of the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989;

(b) whether the special courts in Uttar Pradesh are taking cognizance of such types of cases; and

(c) if so, the details of the last three years in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

Pending oldest case in each State

4042. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the year of the oldest case pending before courts in each State; and

(b) the number of cases pending in each State for thirty years and more, for 25 to 30 years, for 20 to 25 years, for 15 to 20 years from the date of their institution?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.